

The Bel Aire Breeze

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Complimentary copy

Federal gun probe involves former Bel Aire cops

By Matt Heilman

Three former members of the Bel Aire Police Department are the subjects of a joint local and federal investigation concerning possible illegal weapons sales, Sedgwick County Sheriff Jeff Easter said on Sept. 5.

Easter confirmed his department is involved in the investigation with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, which is leading the investigation.

However, no information on the investigation has been released by the feds. On Sept. 5, U.S. Attorney's

Office Spokesman Jim Cross said the office "cannot confirm nor deny the existence of a federal investigation."

Easter said the investigation started after his department was contacted about allegations against former Bel Aire police officers. The sheriff didn't disclose the allegations

or any further details of the investigation, which he said has been ongoing.

Easter said no current Bel Aire police officers are being investigated, a point emphasized by Bel Aire Police Chief Darrell Atteberry.

Atteberry, a retired Wichita Police Department captain, be-

came Bel Aire's chief in May, about five months after former chief John Daily officially retired from the city due to health-related issues. Daily had not been able to work since last fall.

On Sept. 8, Bel Aire City Manager Ty Lasher said he didn't know the identity of the

officers in the investigation and as such, he couldn't say if they were employed with the city when the investigation began.

Atteberry and Lasher said an internal audit revealed that all of the department's weapons purchased "over the past

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Courtesy photo

Next Level Hoops Academy is coming together in the Sunflower Commerce Park. The academy is looking toward future expansion as it prepares for its Nov. 15 grand opening.

Next Level Hoops Academy keeping options open with land purchase

Grand opening for academy set for Nov. 15

By Matt Heilman

The next tenant expected to host a grand opening in Bel Aire's Sunflower Commerce Park already has its eyes on future expansion.

At the Bel Aire City Council's Sept. 16 meeting, the group approved a real estate purchase agreement with Carlos Perez for two lots neighboring the Next Level Hoops Academy near 53rd North and Webb Road in the commerce park.

Carlos Perez is the father of Jason Perez, a former Wichita State University basketball player who started the Next Level Hoops Academy in Wichita in 2010 with a handful of youth boys' basketball teams and personal development training. Participation in the academy has grown substantially over the past four years with more than 20 boys' basketball teams and 12 girls' teams.

The academy has also expanded its participation with volleyball. In Bel Aire, the Next Level Hoops Academy will be the home of the ICT Mavs volleyball program.



About 45 acres of land has been developed in the first phase of the Sunflower Commerce Park. Developers are now preparing to market larger tracts of land in the park's second phase north of 53rd Street.

On Sept. 16, the Bel Aire City Council approved the real estate purchase agreement for 6.8 acres neighboring the Next Level Hoops

Academy. Jason Perez said the plans for the additional land, which about doubles the academy's current property, have yet to be finalized.

"We're keeping our options open," he said.

Recent growth in the Next Level Hoops Academy saw the girls' basketball program expand from two to 12 teams in a year. The academy includes volleyball and basketball teams that compete in league play, as well as traveling tournament teams that compete at the AAU level.

The grand opening for The Next Level Hoops Academy is planned for Nov. 15 with a ribbon cutting at noon.

Jason Perez said ESPN personality and McPherson High School graduate Jonathan Coachman is planning to attend the grand opening. Perez said the academy's new retail store should also be open on Nov. 15.

"We're definitely excited about it," Perez said.

The Next Level Hoops Academy is part of

See ACADEMY, Page 2

Boy treated for bites following dog attack

Dog involved in other incidents

By Matt Heilman

A 13-year-old boy was taken to a Wichita hospital with injuries following a reported dog mauling in the 6400 block of East Danbury in Bel Aire.

Police Chief Darrell Atteberry said the incident occurred about 5:30 p.m. Sept. 10.

Atteberry said it was reported that the boy was visiting a home in the neighborhood in the 6400 block of East Danbury when the homeowners' white and brindle pit bull terrier approached the teen and sniffed him. Atteberry said the dog made the teen uncomfortable, so the boy "gently pushed the dog away."

Atteberry said after the dog stepped back, it attacked. He said the dog bit the teen on his arms, his stomach and his genitals.

Brittany Clampitt, of Sedgwick County Communications, said the dog that attacked the teen was in isolation at the Wichita Animal Shelter after the attack. She said Sedgwick County Animal Control is investigating the case and is working with "multiple jurisdictions," including the City of Bel Aire.

Atteberry, who retired as a captain for the Wichita Police Department before transitioning to Bel Aire's police chief in May, said the pit bull responsible for the recent attack in Bel Aire had previously attacked a postal worker and a citizen when its owners lived in Wichita in 2012.

Following the previous incidents in Wichita, he said the dog was ordered to undergo obedience training among a number of orders handed down to its owners in a court hearing.

Bel Aire infant dies in apparent accident

By The Breeze staff

The apparent accidental death of a 4-month-old girl in Bel Aire remains under investigation and it will be up to the Sedgwick County District Attorney's Office to determine if any charges are filed, Sedgwick County Sheriff Jeff Easter said.

On the afternoon of Aug. 28, Easter said sheriff's deputies were dispatched to a Bel Aire home in the 4200 block of North Mission to assist EMS on a call of an infant who wasn't breathing. Easter said the infant had been sleeping with her 18-year-old mother, who woke up to find the baby unresponsive. The baby was pronounced dead at the scene.

Easter said the case is being investigated as an accidental suffocation. The sheriff said the Kansas Department of Health and Environment is investigating the case because it occurred at a foster home. However, the baby was not in foster care, Easter said.

City OKs upgrades for police

By Matt Heilman

With room in its budget, the Bel Aire Police Department received the green light to update the department with some new equipment. Within the city's \$559,820 appropriations ordinance passed by the city council at its Sept. 16 meeting were purchases for police, including a gun safe, a trail camera and spike strips that can be thrown onto a street to puncture the tires of a fleeing vehicle in a police pursuit.

Bel Aire Finance Director Michelle Meyer explained the

requested upgrades. She said the police department currently does not have a gun safe and has instead had to keep firearms secured in a locked room. She said the trail camera request is meant for officers to more easily monitor construction sites, which may be vulnerable to theft, especially if copper wiring is stored on a site.

Council members Betty Martine and Ramona Becker questioned the department's need for about six new spike strips. Martine indicated that she didn't think Bel Aire had busy enough streets to justify the strips and

expressed a concern with any scenario that the strips might be used in a residential neighborhood.

Council member Peggy O'Donnell said there is a lot of traffic that travels through the city on Webb Road and Rock Road off of K-254 and she wanted Bel Aire officers to be prepared in the event that a pursuit off of the highway was to make its way into the community.

Mayor David Austin said the police department already has one spike strip and the tool is common in most departments.

He said the strips are good for the department to have on a "just-in-case basis."

"I hope we buy these and never see them, but unfortunately, there are bad guys out there," he said.

Martine and Becker still questioned whether the \$2,000 cost associated for each spike strip was worth the total expense.

Martine was the lone council member to vote against the appropriations ordinance. The expense for new spike strips was the only opposition she had

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Mayor's corner

By David Austin

You are all invited. Everyone. Bring your friends and family members and show off our great community Oct. 4.

We have two events in one day. Plus it's the beautiful Keturah Austin's birthday, but nonetheless, seriously, your community development advisory council has created the Bel Aire Fall Festival. It is also the 20th birthday of the Bel Aire Recreation Center. So we are going to celebrate with loads of free family activities, including bounce houses and face painting. There will even be a car show, thanks to the Bel Aire Lions Club.

All the fun begins at 10 a.m. at the Rec Center, located at 5251 E. 48th Street.

Then bring your talent to the second annual Bel Aire Talent Show at 7 p.m. at the Northeast Magnet school. Great prizes will be awarded, so tune up your instruments, warm up your voice, practice your magic, dance moves or comedy act. Just come to show off your talent or come to watch and enjoy all the great talent in Bel Aire.

Progress as promised — Hopefully you have noticed the new tennis court at Bel Aire Park on North Woodlawn. This is a super busy and popular park. This is just one of many needed improvements your city council was able to approve within its budget. Soon, many city items and publicly used places will see improvements that are long overdue.

Two weeks ago, we closed 45th Street from Webb Road going west half a mile for repairs. The road will remained closed until the end of the year and completion is dependent on weather, but the project is underway.

Later this year, city crews will replace some very old water lines and repair parts of the street and gutters on Gunnison near Clarendon. Edgemoor will also be re-paved in November.

Brush drop-off — Fall weather, like springtime, brings a lot of folks outside for yard cleanup. Bel Aire residents may use the brush drop-off site from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 11, so now is the time to trim your trees and bring in tree limbs and shrubbery. Leaves, grass clippings and construction waste will not be accepted. Please be prepared to show a Bel Aire utility bill or driver's license for proof of residency.

Photo contest — Take advantage of the beautiful fall colors all around Bel Aire and capture it forever and enter it into the Bel Aire Photo Contest. Just send in your best three photos of anything in Bel Aire. Visit www.belaireks.gov for more info and learn how you can win \$200.

Guns

Continued from Page 1

several years" were accounted for. An official audit from the federal Law Enforcement Supply Office confirmed the findings in the internal audit.

"That was one of our big concerns was that things the city was buying had been re-sold," Lasher said.

Through the government surplus program in the Law Enforcement Supply Office (LESO), police departments and other agencies are able to purchase equipment at discounted rates, Atteberry said. Officers can also buy firearms at a discount directly from manufacturers, but the guns are supposed to be used for service and can't legally be re-sold.

Atteberry said he too



High school athlete pours on the motivation

Until further notice, Apollos Hester has cornered the market on motivation. The life-loving, encouragement-giving standout wide receiver from East View High School in Georgetown, Texas, gave an incredible interview on live television following his Patriots' come-from-behind win Sept. 19 in which Hester played a key role.

Hester was glad his team found a way to win, but his bigger picture perspective was impressive. He admitted his team started slowly in the game, but "that's OK," because they knew they were going to finish fast and were going to play hard until the end, no matter what the scoreboard said.

"That's all it takes to be successful is an attitude," Hester said, taking his message beyond the game of football.

As his voice raised and Hester took command of the interview, he demanded viewers' attention with a delivery that should have had people jumping up off their couches in search of the nearest brick wall to run through.

"It's an awesome feeling when you truly believe that you're going to be successful, regardless of the situation, regardless of the scoreboard, you're going to be successful because you put in all the time, all the effort, all the hard work and you know that it's going to pay

Heil on life

By Matt Heilman



off," Hester said.

And if you were wondering what happens if the hard work doesn't pay off? Hester had an answer.

"If it doesn't pay off, you continue to give God the glory," he said. "If you still lose the game, you continue to get each other's back."

Hester said that his team knew they were going to be OK, even if they would have lost on Friday. They were going to keep smiling. There was nothing that was going to keep this kid down. And despite what some anonymous, buzz-killing cynics on the Internet have said, Hester was not on Ecstasy or "Molly." He was a well-spoken, thoughtful young man who had an adrenaline high that carried him through one of the greatest 2 1/2-minute sports interviews of all time.

Not long after the sideline reporter conducting the interview finally had a chance to get a word in and there was

a sense that the interview was winding down about 90 seconds in, Hester showed no interest in wrapping up his air time. In fact, he was just getting started.

He pointed directly at the camera, calling out anyone watching to be the best he or she can be.

"You can do anything you put your mind to," he said. "Never give up on your dreams, keep smiling, no matter what you're going through. If you fall down, just get up. If you can't get up, your friends are there to help you up, your mama's there, your daddy's there, God's there. Hey, I'm there to help you up. You're there. It's gonna be alright. Just keep smiling."

For me, Hester's attitude equates to the Wichita State University basketball rally cry of "playing angry," a call to attack whatever you're doing with the best of your ability. Even if Hester doesn't play basketball, I think Gregg Marshall should strongly consider giving this kid a scholarship. With that kind of motivation on the bench, how can you lose? And if you do lose, that's OK, because he's got your back.

Matt Heilman is a reporter for The Bel Aire Breeze. Reach him at matt@arkvalleynews.com or 755-0821.

Academy

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the first phase in the Sunflower Commerce Park, which consists of 155 acres just south of 53rd Street. The 155 acres are being developed as "shovel ready," meaning infrastructure is in place for construction to begin almost immediately after lots are sold.

The lots in the 800-acre commerce park's first phase are on three- to 15-acre tracts of land. Recently, Lasher said the city "has been getting a lot of interest" in larger tracts of property.

He said some of the interest has not included a need for railroad siding, which provides more flexibility for development on the north side of 53rd Street in the commerce park. Lasher said developers are looking at putting together a plat for Phase II of the commerce park, which could include up to 40-acre tracts.

Lasher didn't disclose what businesses have expressed interest in the larger tracts of land. He said the plat for Phase II of the Sunflower Commerce Park, north of the 155 acres in Phase I, would come before the council in October.

Police

Continued from Page 1

in the \$559,820 allocated in spending for city operations.

Later in the meeting, the council supported the police department by unanimously approving a DigiTicket service agreement with Saltus Technologies for automated citations. DigiTicket automates the process of writing and processing citations using mobile software that runs on handheld computers, tablets or laptops.

Put simply, the electronic

processing of traffic tickets increases efficiency by allowing officers to issue citations more quickly and safely, Austin said.

Also on Sept. 16, the council:

- Approved a resolution approving the sale of tax-exempt revenue bonds from the city's established public building commission.

- Approved Austin's appointment of Kevass Harding to the Bel Aire Community Development Committee.

- Approved the Community Rating System Recertification Application with the National Flood Insurance Program.

All five council members were present with Austin at the Sept. 16 meeting. Bel Aire City Manager Ty Lasher was absent.

and Kechi Police Chief John Blevins said they don't see the need for submachine guns in their departments, with reinforcement available from larger agencies.

Bostian said the most rapid-fire weapon in his department is a semi-automatic rifle, similar to what can be purchased at sporting goods stores. He said the presence of semi-automatic firearms isn't uncommon in smaller police departments, but fully automatic weapons like the MP5s are usually limited to larger agencies, including those at the state and federal levels.

With any firearm in any department or agency, Bostian said accountability is crucial.

"We're responsible for every bullet that comes out the end of the gun," he said.

Pet laws should protect humans

As long as they're well behaved and don't cause nuisances, we enjoy having pets around. It's nice to see friends and neighbors out for a walk with their dogs in the early evenings. Companionship with animals is a quality-of-life improver and it's often a staple for suburban family life in communities like Valley Center, Park City, Bel Aire and Kechi.

But there comes a point when you have to take responsibility for your pet's actions. And there comes a point where sometimes-convoluted ordinances have to be sorted through and enforced to assure that the pet you love isn't causing problems for others in the community.

An unfortunate event that could have turned tragic is bringing the issue of pet ordinances within our communities back up for discussion. On Sept. 10, a teenager was attacked by a dog in Bel Aire. The dog was owned by friends of the teen and was not at-large at the time of the attack.

It's unclear exactly what triggered the dog to act aggressively. Somehow, the dog's initial curiosity in greeting the teen turned violent.

The dog attacked, the teen suffered bites and required emergency care. The dog was sent to the county's animal shelter and quarantined.

The dog was a pit bull that had reportedly undergone obedience training after being involved in two prior, less violent attacks in Wichita. We don't want to get into breed shaming and calling for pit bulls and other terriers with more aggressive reputations to be banned in all of our communities. We know that there are pit bull owners and Rottweiler owners across the area that would swear that they have the sweetest dogs in the world. And for all we know, they might be right.

But the attack in Bel Aire brings to light the importance of ordinances and the need to review them fairly regularly, at least on an annual basis. We know that hindsight is 20-20, but questions have been raised after the attack in Bel Aire.

No matter how well the dog performed in its obedience training and no matter how secure the fence was to keep the dog from running at-large, neighbors should have the right to question why such an aggressive animal was permitted to live in the city.

We don't know if there was anything the teen in Bel Aire did that might have caused the dog to feel threatened or defensive. And really, it doesn't matter in a case where, by all accounts, the victim had no intentions to harm the animal.

For us, the bottom line is we don't want aggressive animals in our neighborhoods. It doesn't matter how sweet and loving your pet may be. If they're capable of turning a bad day into a trip to the hospital, we don't think it's too much to ask that they find a home away from children and with a farther distance between residences.

And looking at other animal ordinance issues in the past couple of years, we also believe that traditionally rural animals like pot-bellied pigs, chickens and miniature horses should be kept outside of city limits.

It's important to review the ordinances to make sure that they make sense and that they have the best interest of our communities in mind.

— The Bel Aire Breeze

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POLICE REPORTS

Sept. 17 — Officer Camplin stopped a vehicle in the 5100 block of North Rock Road. The driver was arrested on a charge of driving with a revoked license.

Sept. 17 — Officer Roney responded to a possible injury accident at 37th North and Ridgewood. The motorcycle did not strike any vehicles and the driver refused medical treatment.

Sept. 16 — Chief Atteberry took a report of theft from a construction site. A contracted reported the theft of about 500 gallons of diesel fuel from a fuel tank.

Sept. 15 — Officer Toomey stopped a vehicle for speeding in the 5000 block of North Oliver. The driver was issued a notice to appear in court on charges of speeding and expired driver's license.

Sept. 14 — Officer Elpers stopped a vehicle for crossing the center line in the 4800 block of East 37th North. The driver had warrants out of Topeka, but Topeka authorities refused to extradite the man, so he was notified of the warrants and released.

Sept. 14 — Officer Elpers responded to a report of an assault in the 8400 block of East Granite Court. The victim said she was pushed from the porch by a drunk friend. The investigation is ongoing.

Sept. 14 — Officers observed a disabled vehicle in the 4500 block of North Westlake. The license plate on the car belonged to a different vehicle. The tag was collected, and the owner of the car said he would move it.

Sept. 14 — Officers observed a vehicle with a cracked windshield in the 6300 block of East 53rd North. The driver was arrested on a charge of driving with a suspended license and a Bel Aire warrant.

Sept. 14 — Officer Camplin conducted a welfare check of a woman who was late for work in the 5300 block of East Ashton. The woman said she overslept.

Sept. 11 — Officer Elpers was notified of a dog attack from the previous day. The reporting party said her 13-year-old son was mauled by a dog in the 6400 block of East Danbury. The boy was taken to the hospital by his father for treatment.

Sept. 11 — Officers responded to a simple assault in the 5900 block of East Flagstaff. Joshua S. Gentry was arrested on a charge of domestic battery.

Sept. 10 — Officer Louks responded to a report of a man being harassed at a Wichita park. The caller was referred to Wichita police.

Sept. 9 — Officer Elpers stopped a vehicle for speeding in the 4000 block of North Oliver. The driver was

issued notices to appear in court on a charge of driving with a suspended license and was booked into the Sedgwick County Jail on Wichita warrants.

Sept. 8 — Officers responded to an auto theft at a construction site in the 10400 block of East 53rd North. The vehicle information was entered into the national database.

Sept. 8 — Officer Toomey responded to a two-vehicle wreck in the 4400 block of North Woodlawn. No injuries were reported.

Sept. 8 — Officer Toomey assisted the sheriff's office with a disorderly case in the 4800 block of North Harding.

Sept. 7 — Officer Menges responded to a burglary in the 4400 block of Janesville. The homeowner reported she found damage to her residence three weeks earlier.

Sept. 6 — Officers responded to a report of a possible drunken driver in the 11100 block of East 61st North. Officers stopped the vehicle and determined the driver was not drunk. He was arrested on a warrant through Wichita.

Sept. 6 — Officers responded to a fraud that occurred over the telephone in the 4700 block of Krueger. The reporting party wanted advice on filling out forms for the case.

Sept. 5 — Officer Elpers stopped a vehicle for a headlight violation in the 5900 block of East 37th North. The driver was arrested on a charge of driving with a revoked license.

Sept. 4 — Officers responded to check an abandoned vehicle with damage to the steering column and ignition in the 4300 block of North Auburn. The vehicle had been stolen. The owner was contacted.

Sept. 4 — Officers responded to conduct a welfare check in the 4100 block of Danbury. The person was not home.

Sept. 4 — Officer Menges took a threat report from a representative of Catholic Care Center. A man made a threat regarding staff, but there was indication that he would carry out the threat.

Sept. 3 — Officer Elpers responded to a larceny report in the 5500 block of East 37th North. Someone lost a debit card and it had been used.

Sept. 3 — Officer Steele stopped a suspicious character in the 3900 block of North Hillcrest. The person had been dumpster diving. He was released.

Sept. 2 — Officer Elpers conducted a traffic stop in the 6100 block East 37th North. A motorist was issued citations for driving with an expired tag and no proof of liability insurance.

Sept. 2 — Officers Camplin and

Steele responded to a suspicious character report in the 4300 block of North Gunnison. The area was checked and there was no suggestion of suspicious activity detected.

Sept. 1 — Officer Menges and Lt. Foxx responded to a reported sudden death in the 6700 block of East 45th North.

Sept. 1 — Chief Darrell Atteberry responded to a reported burglary in the 4700 block of North Oliver. The victim reported that suspects entered the front door of the business by entering the code in the front door keypad.

Aug. 31 — Officer Camplin conducted a traffic stop in the 4500 block of North Woodlawn. A motorist was arrested on a Wichita warrant.

Aug. 31 — Officer Camplin conducted a traffic stop in the 4500 block of North Woodlawn. A motorist was issued a citation for driving with a suspended license and running a stop sign.

Aug. 30 — Officer Camplin took a miscellaneous offense report in Newton. A man with a Bel Aire warrant was picked up from the Harvey County Jail and transported to the Sedgwick County Jail.

Aug. 30 — Officer Camplin conducted a traffic stop in the 5500 block of North Rock Road. Adonis Christopher Andrews was arrested on a Wichita warrant for failure to appear in court.

Aug. 30 — Officer Camplin conducted a traffic stop in the 5200 block of North Rock Road. A motorist was issued a citation for driving with a defective headlight and with a suspended license.

Aug. 30 — Officer Menges and Lt. Foxx responded to a burglary in the 4000 block of North Edgemoor. A citizen reported that her neighbor saw three juveniles looking through her windows and walking around the property. There was no identification on the juveniles.

Aug. 30 — Officer Menges and Lt. Foxx assisted EMS in the 6600 block of East St. James.

Aug. 30 — Officer Elpers conducted a traffic stop in the 4000 block of North Oliver. A motorist was cited for driving with a tag light out and not having his driver's license in possession.

Aug. 29 — Chief Atteberry responded to a report of aggravated assault in the 5900 block of East Flagstaff. Joshua Samuel Gentry was arrested on a charge of aggravated battery after reportedly striking his mother with a club.

Aug. 28 — Menges responded to a report of a non-injury vehicle accident in the 5200 block of North Lycee Circle.

Aug. 27 — Lt. Foxx conducted a

traffic stop in the 4900 block of East 37th North. A man was issued a citation for improper display of a license plate and driving with a suspended license.

Aug. 27 — Officer Steele responded to a report of simple assault in the 5900 block of East Memphis. A man reported he had received visible injuries and had damage within his residence caused by another man. After officers investigated, Matthew Charles Graham was arrested. After being placed in a patrol car, Graham became increasingly agitated and kicked the window from the tracks. While being removed from the patrol car, Graham spit on two officers. Graham was arrested on charges of resisting arrest, battery upon a law enforcement officer, criminal damage to property, domestic violence-criminal damage to property and domestic violence-battery.

Aug. 27 — Officer Elpers responded to a report of a possible drunken driver leaving a business in the 3800 block of North Woodlawn. The area was checked, but the vehicle was not located. Approximately 30 minutes later, Valley Center police identified the same vehicle as having been involved in a hit-and-run accident. The driver was found and was arrested on a charge of DUI.

Aug. 27 — Officers responded to a report of domestic violence in the 5900 block of North Memphis. After an investigation, the call was found to be false.

Aug. 26 — Officer Camplin conducted a traffic stop after spotting a vehicle running a stop sign in the 4500 block of North Woodlawn. A motorist was issued a citation for the traffic violation and driving with a suspended license.

Aug. 25 — Officer Menges responded to an animal bite in the 4100 block of North Woodlawn. A citizen reported being bitten by a dog at the "dog wash" at Heartland Animal Hospital on Aug. 23.

Aug. 25 — Officer Menges responded to a report from protective services of a man who had just moved into a nursing home in Wichita. After the man was admitted, it was reported that he was suffering from physical neglect. The reporting party stated that before moving into the nursing home, the man had been living in Bel Aire with friends and relatives who had moved into his home.

Aug. 25 — Officer Menges and Lt. Foxx responded to a domestic violence disturbance with threats of physical harm. A woman was taken to a Wichita hospital for a psychological evaluation.

Aug. 25 — Officer Toomey responded to check a possible suicidal

individual in the 6700 block of East 44th Street. A woman denied every wanting to harm herself and refused medical attention.

Aug. 25 — Officer Toomey responded to a call in the 5900 block of East Memphis to prevent further escalation in a reported verbal argument. There were no injuries and both individuals agreed to call a truce for the night and settle their differences later.

Aug. 24 — Officer Menges conducted a traffic stop in the 5500 block of East 37th North. A motorist was issued a citation for failure to wear a seatbelt, failure to use a child safety restraint, no proof of liability insurance and driving while never having been licensed. The stop was made as part of the state's Click it or Ticket patrol.

Aug. 24 — Officer Menges conducted a traffic stop in the 5500 block of East 37th North. A passenger in a vehicle was arrested on a Wichita warrant. The passenger was also issued a citation for a seat belt violation. The stop was made as part of the state's Click it or Ticket patrol.

Aug. 23 — Officer Elpers conducted a traffic stop in the 4100 block of North Woodlawn. A motorist was issued a citation for a traffic violation and driving with a suspended license.

Aug. 22 — Officer Menges responded to a disturbance at Family Video in the 4500 block North Woodlawn. The reporting party said there was a man who walked into the store and was asking for free merchandise. The man was contacted in the parking lot of Bob and Luigi's Restaurant. He stated that he was waiting at Family Video for his aunt to pick him up and he wanted to get a drink because he was hot outside. He advised he was terminated from his employment for being lazy.

Aug. 22 — Officer Elpers took a miscellaneous report at the station. A woman came to the station to report a custody issue. She was directed to make her report with the Wichita Police Department due to events occurring in that jurisdiction.

Aug. 22 — Lt. Foxx conducted a traffic stop in the 5500 block of East 45th North. A motorist was issued a citation for speeding.

Aug. 22 — Officer Thompson took a miscellaneous report in the 5500 block of Falcon Street. A man reported that someone was bothering the rear gate of a neighboring home. Nothing appeared to be out of order.

Aug. 21 — Officer Menges observed a man driving away from the city building after being cautioned not to drive due to a suspended license. The man committed additional traf-

fic violations and was stopped. The man was stopped and arrested on charges of driving with a suspended license and violating his bond conditions.

Aug. 21 — Officer Thompson responded to a report of larceny in the 4900 block of North Woodlawn. The calling party reported a woman, accompanied by an older man, took a diamond dinner ring from a display cases at an estate sale.

Aug. 19 — Chief Atteberry took a miscellaneous report in the 4200 block of North Rushwood. Two residents of a group home had gotten into a verbal argument. The group home staff handled the situation.

Aug. 18 — Officer Camplin conducted a traffic stop in the 4700 block of North Webb Road. A motorist was cited for a missing headlamp and driving with a suspended license.

Aug. 18 — Officer Menges responded to a miscellaneous report in the 4500 block of North Westlake Court. A juvenile was reportedly yelling at his parents.

Aug. 18 — Officer Menges conducted a traffic stop in the 4600 block of North Oliver. A motorist was cited for speeding, no driver's license in possession and no proof of insurance.

Aug. 17 — Officer Louks conducted a traffic stop in the 5100 block of North Oliver. A motorist was issued a citation for speeding and driving with a suspended license.

Aug. 15 — Officer Menges conducted a traffic stop in the 4300 block of North Oliver. A motorist was issued a citation for driving with a suspended license.

Aug. 15 — Officer Elpers took a miscellaneous report at Marco's Pizza in the 4500 block of North Woodlawn. A man who appeared to be intoxicated was transported to Dillon's so he could walk home. He was given a verbal trespassing warning.

Aug. 15 — Officer Elpers responded to a report of indecent exposure in the 4300 block of North Woodlawn. A suspect was not located, but the description matched the suspect in the previous case. The man's probation officer was contacted regarding his conduct.

Aug. 15 — Officer Menges responded to a report of larceny in the 4400 block of North Westlake Court. A citizen reported missing items after her home had been cleaned by a cleaning service.

Aug. 15 — Officer Menges responded to a report of disorderly conduct in the 4200 block of North Rushwood. A citizen reported unknown person(s) throwing toilet paper over his tree, bushes and basketball goal.

CHURCH HIGHLIGHTS

Christ Lutheran Church

Christ Lutheran is located at 53rd Street North and Hillside, across from Wichita Heights High School. Worship services are at 9:00 a.m. (Contemporary) and 11:00 a.m. (Traditional). Communion is offered at both services. Sunday School is at 10:15 a.m. For more information about the church and its activities find the church online at www.christ-lutheran.org. or call 744-1242. Pastor Chad Langdon is the minister of Christ Lutheran Church.

Church of the Resurrection

Church of the Resurrection (Roman Catholic) is located at 4910 N. Woodlawn in Bel Aire.

Masses for the Lord's Day are 5:30 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday. Weekday Masses are 8 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; also at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Resurrection Catholic School has students from preschool through eighth grade.

The parish/school website is www.resurrectionwichita.com. Phone number is 744-2776. Rev. James F. Weldon is the pastor.

Community Bible Chapel

Community Bible Chapel is located at the corner of

45th st. N and Arlene. Please contact Amy Smith at 316-323-2819 with any questions.

Fairmount United Church of Christ

The church welcomes a new minister, Rev. Larry Young.

Visit the newly renovated building at 1605 Fairmount in Wichita (one block south and one block east of Hillside and 17th North).

Sunday worship is at 10:30 a.m. which includes children's church. Sunday school begins at 9:30.

For more information, call 682-1597 or visit at www.fairmountuccc.org.

Gospel Assembly Church

Located at 4230 N. Oliver in Bel Aire, service times are 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday. Prayer service is 7 p.m. Tuesday. Praise and worship is 7:30 p.m. Wednesday. The first Saturday evening of each month are youth activities.

Phone number is 744-1502. Rev. Gary D. Green is the pastor.

Greenwich United Methodist Church

Sunday worship service at 9 a.m. Fellowship and coffee follow the service.

Pastor Jeff Miller can be reached at 744-0203.

Senior Day first Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m.

United Methodist Women meet the first Thursday of each month at 1 p.m.

Movie night is the second Saturday of each month at 6:30 p.m. A snack is served.

The church is located about a mile south of K-254 on Greenwich Road. The phone number is 744-0203.

Kechi United Methodist Church

You are invited to worship at 9:03 am (contemporary service) or 11:00 am (traditional service) on Sundays at Kechi United Methodist Church, 4533 E. 61st North in Kechi.

All 6th - 12th grade youth are invited Sundays to the church at 4:00 p.m. for youth group.

CareGivers Support group meets every first Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the basement parlor. Bingo is every first Wednesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join in.

Find us at www.KechiUMC.org and "Like" us on Facebook. Pastor Mitch Reece can be contacted at Mitch@kechiumc.org. Phone number 744-1221.

Risen Savior Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

Contemporary Sunday

worship services at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Communion on the first and third Sunday. Adult Sunday school and Bible class meet at 9:15 a.m. Children's church at 10:30. A nursery is provided during Bible class and second service.

Two weekly sessions of Lifetree Café in Valley Center: Thursday at 1:00 p.m. (Lunch at Noon) at the Community Building (316 E. Clay) and Sunday at 5:00 p.m. at the home of Pastor Terry & Barb Wiechman (1241 S. Park Avenue). Lifetree Café is a "conversation café"; a place and time for people to gather weekly to experience stories and talk about thought-provoking topics relating to life and faith.

Wednesday Evening Ministries is from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. There are activities for all ages. A nursery will be available for preschool age children. King's Kids is for children in K – 5th grade. Confirmation class is for children in grades 6 – 8. IM-PACT! is for grades 9 – 12. There will also be adult Bible classes available.

Risen Savior Preschool classes for 3 to 5 year-olds are on Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 9:00 to 11:45 a.m. Enrollment forms and information are available at the church office. Please contact Michelle

Peshek, Director/Lead Teacher with questions at atmichellep@risensavior.net or call the church office at 683-5538.

The church is located at 6770 E. 34th North in Wichita. The phone number is 683-5538. www.risensaviorwichita.net.

Senior pastor is Tom Harmon.

St. Michael's Orthodox Christian Church

Saint Michael's Orthodox Christian Church is located at 2710 E. 61st Street Park City, KS 67219. It is a congregation of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America. "...the disciples were first called Christians at Antioch." Acts 11:26.

On Sunday at 9 a.m. is our adult class, "Jesus: The Man, the Message and the Meaning" Service of Matins is at 9:45 a.m. followed by the Divine Liturgy (Mass) at 10 a.m. Nursery service is provided.

On Wednesday our service is at 6 p.m. On Saturday Vespers is at 4:30 p.m.

Men's Study Group first and third Monday at 7 p.m. We are studying the Gospel of Luke.

Women's Study Group second and fourth Friday at 10 a.m. We are studying the book, GOD'S PATH

TO SANITY: Lessons from Ancient Holy Counselors on How to have a Sound Mind.

Wednesday Potluck Supper & Program are on the first and third Wednesdays with Liturgy 6 p.m., Potluck Supper 6:45 p.m., program 7:30 p.m. Sept. 3 began a seven part program on the Epistle to the Ephesians entitled, THE FULL ARMOUR OF GOD. Our first session was an introduction to the Orthodox Church's teaching on Satan and the demons.

Call the church for more information 734-6248 or visit our website: www.stmichaeloc.org

Email inquiries: jflora@cox.net

Wichita Three Angels Seventh-Day Adventist Church

The church is located at 4558 N. Hydraulic Wichita, KS 67219.

The pastor is Nathan Stearman. The Sabbath school is at 9:30 a.m. Worship service is at 11 a.m.

For more information find us at www.godscloset.com or on Facebook, email eric@godscloset.com, or call 530-1040.

Send your church's upcoming events and service times to legals@arkvalleynews.com or call 755-0821.

Deadline for Nov.: Oct 17

www.arkvalleynews.com

BelAireBreeze

Home arena yet to be identified for new indoor football team

By Matt Heilman

Wichita's new indoor football team has a new name and a new logo in a new, consolidated league. However, there has been no official word of a potential new home venue for the team.

On Sept. 15, Marvin

Fisher, a supporter of the Wichita Wild franchise that played eight seasons with home games at Hartman Arena in Park City, unveiled that Wichita's new team is The Wichita Force. There has been speculation that the Force is likely to play its home games at the arena of

the Kansas Star Casino in Mulvane, but no speculation was confirmed as of Sept. 25.

The Force will kick off its season in February in the Champions Indoor Football League. The new league is composed of 12 teams in a merger between the Central Plains Indoor Football

League and the five-team Lonestar League, featuring four teams from west Texas and one from New Mexico.

The Wichita Wild won its second consecutive CPIFL championship in June, but soon after, owner Wink Hartman put the team on the market as the Wild had

struggled to generate revenue playing home games at Hartman Arena.

A deal with Fisher couldn't be reached to keep the Wichita Wild franchise afloat in north Sedgwick County, but much of the same personnel on and off the field for the Wild is expected to

return with the Wichita Force, including former Wild head coach Paco Martinez, the son of Park City resident and local sports announcer, Frank Martinez.

This year, Paco Martinez guided the Wild to a league championship in his first season as a head coach.

Council discusses city code, approves funding for infrastructure

By Matt Heilman

The Bel Aire City Council spent its Sept. 2 meeting addressing city codes, clearing the way for improvements in two residential developments and listening to concerns from a couple of residents.

After the council approved its bi-monthly appropriations ordinance, residents Fred Smith and Mahlon McCaleb addressed the council. Smith expressed concerns about the road conditions near his property at 127th East and 53rd North, on the east end of the city.

McCaleb, a resident of the Elk Creek addition near 45th North and Rock Road requested that the council not approve of any further zone changes in Elk Creek with the city's next rezoning map. In 2012, part of the upscale development was rezoned to pave the way for multi-family construction to spur progress in Elk Creek.

McCaleb shared his con-

cern that another zone change from single-family to multi-family construction would create a challenge for the Homeowner's Association to carryout its covenants. He has also shared his belief that the best option for Elk Creek is to fill out the development with single-family construction, as was originally intended.

Ordinances passed by the council included an amendment to a portion of the city code relating to allowable heights of unattached structures. Following a point made by council member Ken Lee, the council agreed that the maximum 15-foot height rule shouldn't be a one-size-fits-all code. Lee said he understood that the purpose of the code is to keep residents from building unnecessarily large structures like pole barns, but he felt there should be some discrepancy in the rule, especially with some single-family homes in Bel Aire constructed at higher

pitches than average homes.

The council also approved ordinances relating to city codes with subdivision regulations, sign regulations and animal regulations. Specific regulations were not discussed during the meeting.

On the improvement front, the council approved a \$298,215 bid from Nowak Construction for water line replacements in the Pearson Addition, which features some of Bel Aire's oldest properties. The council also approved a \$510,006.80 bid from Dondlinger Construction for stormwater improvements in Phase I of the planned Chapel Landing addition. The development is planned for about 300 acres across 53rd Street from Isely Traditional Magnet Elementary at 53rd North and Woodlawn.

Plans for Chapel Landing call for the development of upscale homes upward of \$300,000. City leaders have yet to identify a target date

for home construction to begin.

Also on Sept. 2, the council: •Approved an appropriations ordinance of \$964,836.74. Bel Aire Mayor David Austin explained that more than \$600,000 of the total accounted for principal and interest payments on bonds in the city.

•Approved an easement for Southwestern Bell on property owned by the city's Public Building Commission along 53rd Street.

•Approved a police services agreement with Sunrise Christian Academy. Under the agreement, the school will reimburse the city for any overtime pay associated with officers patrolling Sunrise's three home football games this fall.

•Heard from Lasher that 45th Street from Webb west about half a mile will be closed for road repairs for about one month, starting Sept. 8. Lasher said a water main replacement off of Gunnels Street will also take about a month, but there will be minimal downtime on water for residents in the area.

•Held three executive sessions totaling 45 minutes. A five-minute closed-door session relating to personnel was followed by two executive sessions relating to attorney-client privilege, spanning 30 minutes and 10 minutes respectively. No binding action was taken in the closed sessions.

•Approved Betty Martine and

Ramona Becker as voting delegates and Peggy O'Donnell and Bel Aire City Manager Ty Lasher as alternate voting delegates to the annual business & policy meeting of the League of Kansas Municipalities Conference Oct. 13 in Wichita.

•Agreed to hold a council workshop at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 8.

All five council members and Mayor David Austin were present at the Sept. 2 meeting.

HIGHLIGHTS

Woman arrested after hit-and-run

A Bel Aire woman was arrested after a hit-and-run accident in Valley Center Aug. 27.

Police said Brandy Morris, 39, was booked into jail on charges of DUI, transporting an open container of alcohol and leaving the scene of an accident after she was found at Kwik Shop minutes after the wreck at Ford and Meridian.

Police said Morris' white Honda Civic struck the back of a second vehicle while it was stopped and waiting to turn at Ford and Meridian. Police said Morris told the

second driver that she was drunk and to let her leave.

While police were responding to the wreck, they spotted Morris' vehicle at Kwik Shop, 110 E. Fifth. Kwik Shop had the vehicle towed away.

— The Breeze staff

Bel Aire Fall Fest set for Oct. 4

An Oct. 4 anniversary celebration and a community talent show are part of the Bel Aire Fall Festival. The 20th anniversary party for the Bel Aire Rec Center begins at 10 a.m. at the rec center, 5251 East 48th North. The celebration features

games including basketball, toss games, disc golf and tether ball, as well as inflatables, a car show and face painting among a myriad of activities.

The Bel Aire Lions Club is sponsoring the car show.

A live band will perform and food vendors will be present on the rec center property.

The Bel Aire Fall Festival will also include the Second Annual Bel Aire Talent Show in the auditorium at Northeast Magnet High School. For more information on the event, contact Bel Aire Community Development Director Rick Rekoske at 744-

2451, Ext. 218, or by email at rrekoske@belaireks.gov.

— The Breeze staff

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32 Upcoming Events

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With a wink and a smile

Faith and family highlight Clean in a Wink franchise owner's career

By Matt Heilman

On a cold February morning in 1988, Jerry Winkley put on his topcoat and tie and walked through the snow, trying to drum up business. With his wife, Lisa, and two young sons at home, Winkley knocked on doors.

He started with a well-known Wichita neighborhood that looked like a solid bet to find potential customers. He left 100 door hangers on the front doors of homes in College Hill and knocked on every door that received a hanger. After he reached out to 100 potential customers, he'd leave another 100 hangers and knock on 100 more doors. He kept at it until he broke through.

"It was called blockbusting," Winkley said.

The outreach continued beyond College Hill and carried on until he got his new business off the ground. Over time, the work that began with the walks through the snow paid off.

Now 54 years old, Winkley is retired from his role as the owner of the Service Master Clean in a Wink network of franchises based near 45th North and Hydraulic in Park City. Winkley's last official day at Clean in a Wink was Aug. 1, but his work isn't finished with the company that offers deep cleaning of homes and businesses and specializes in disaster restoration.

In the relationship with the Service Master parent company, Winkley teaches continued education within the company's broad network. He said he would like to build a sales, coaching and accountability network across the franchise system, helping franchisees across the country grow like Clean in a Wink has in south-central Kansas, employing more than 100 employees.

"Service Master has four objectives," Winkley said. "Honoring God in all we do, helping people develop, pursuing excellence and growing profitability. Those four make a nice balance."

Through the years, Winkley has guided teams to clean up messes that often seemed unfixable. Storms, flooded basements, large spills and scattered piles of debris challenged Clean in a Wink employees



Matt Heilman

Valley Center residents Jerry and Lisa Winkley are looking forward to new doors opening.

over the years. Each time, they've been able to answer the call.

"It was a lot of hard work and a lot of prayer," Winkley said.

When he walked through the snow with the door hangers more than 26 years ago, Winkley didn't know much about damage restoration. But he was confident he found the right business to provide for his family. In 1988, as the newest Service Master franchisee, he was listed in the phonebook, but the completion of his training with the company didn't come with a list of customers.

Service Master was a growing company in the United States and internationally, but Winkley had his work cut out for him. The young husband and father, previously employed as a youth pastor and a diesel mechanic, signed a contract to start a Service Master franchise in the fall of 1987 when his second oldest son,

Jonathan was one day old.

At the time, he was working as a youth pastor in the small town of Lorraine, located between Ellsworth and Lyons in Ellsworth County.

He enjoyed working with the youth, but for full-time work, he wanted the opportunity to work with his hands while providing a service for people. Winkley was trained as a diesel engine mechanic, but his color blindness limited his capabilities as the work became more computerized.

He became interested in Service Master after hearing several ads for the company on Paul Harvey's radio show, which he listened to every day.

With Lisa's support, Jerry Winkley moved his family to Wichita. In the winter of 1988, the family packed up its belongings with help from local farmers in Lorraine.

"We moved in the middle of a blizzard," Winkley said.

The Winkleys moved to a small home in southwest Wichita and Jerry got to work, traveling through the city to find customers. He had a rela-

tively small window to make the opportunity work.

"We thought we had enough money saved where we could survive four to six months on our savings," Winkley said. "So, we just lived very, very carefully."

In the beginning, Winkley would come home in the evening after knocking on doors and calling insurance agents all day and Lisa would ask him if he had any leads.

The timing of the first big lead proved challenging.

On March 24, 1988, Lisa Winkley had a birthday, her first since the family moved to Wichita. Jerry made her a promise before he left for work that day.

"I promised that no matter what happened that day, I was going to take her out for her birthday," Winkley said.

That morning, after he said goodbye to Lisa and his sons, Winkley got his first job from an insurance agent. A large basement featuring a player piano and a pool table was flooded.

Winkley had never done a

water-loss job and he had no employees. He couldn't turn down the work, but he didn't want to break his promise to take his wife to dinner.

"I knew I was in trouble," Winkley said.

He called a friend he met at church and offered to pay him for a couple of hours of work on the basement so he could celebrate his wife's birthday.

"Then, I would work all night to finish the job," Winkley said.

After her birthday dinner, Lisa worked with her husband through the night to clean up the flooded basement. The Winkleys worked as a team, but were also able to rely on assistance from other area Service Master franchises when needed.

It didn't take long for the Winkleys to earn a solid reputation with the company.

"By the second month, we had started paying most of the bills for the business and after about four months, we were able to start paying ourselves an income," Winkley said.

Winkley's business grew along with his family. His Service Master Corporation started humbly in a small rental property in Wichita and moved five times before finding its home on about five acres near 45th North and Hydraulic about 20 years ago. The company adopted the Clean in a Wink title about 17 years ago.

Since starting the business, Jerry and Lisa Winkley had one more son and two daughters, all of which graduated from Valley Center High School. The couple also has two grandchildren.

Today, one of Winkley's first customers attends a class he teaches at Wichita's Central Christian Church on Sunday mornings. She's still a customer as well as a friend, Winkley said.

He's appreciated the support from customers and his family, but looking back to the walks in the snow more than 26 years ago, Winkley indicated his faith more than anything carried him through.

"Matthew 6:33 says, 'Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness and all these things will be added unto you,'" Winkley said. "We felt we were seeking God when we came in to the business. We felt we were doing exactly what we needed to do, so somehow He would provide for us. We just didn't know how soon."

Nor how much. When Winkley retired, Clean in a Wink had about 110 employees, about half of them working full-time for the company.

"Our original vision was someday we would grow to a couple employees if we really, really grew," Winkley said.

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DEATH

MARY HEFREN

Mary A. Hefren, 99, of Bel Aire, formerly of Cherryvale, died Aug. 27, 2014, at Catholic Care Center in Bel Aire.

Mary was born in Cherryvale on Nov. 10, 1914, the daughter of Peter and Ida (Miller) Hefren. She attended Cherryvale schools until moving to Independence where she graduated from Independence High School. She began her career at Mercy Hospital in Independence; she then worked for various places for the U.S. Civil Service and retired in St. Louis.

She is survived by five

nieces and three nephews, as well as a god-daughter, Mary Lisa Duncan.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers Bud, Joe and Fred Hefren; and sisters Marguerite and Frances Hefren.

A funeral mass was held on Sept. 2 at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Cherryvale. The family requests memorials to the Holy Spirit Adoration Sisters and they may be left at Webb & Rodrick Chapel. Webb & Rodrick Chapel & Crematory is entrusted with the arrangements.

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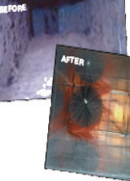
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